

Message Text

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12

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ITF-05 SR-02 ORM-01 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 L-03 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 DODE-00 AID-05

IO-10 VO-03 SCA-01 /073 W

----- 115858

R 300204Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5856

INFO AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

AMCONSUL SYDNEY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CANBERRA 3465

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: VS, VN

SUBJ: DRV EMBASSY PRESSURING FORMER GVN EMBASSY OFFICIALS TO
RETURN TO VIET-NAM

1. SUMMARY: NORTH VIETNAMESE EMBASSY IN CANBERRA HAS SENT LETTERS TO GVN DIPLOMATS IN AUSTRALIA, ORDERING THEM TO RETURN TO SOUTH VIET-NAM OR BE CONSIDERED AS HAVING ABANDONED THEIR FORMER FUNCTIONS. ALTHOUGH GOA HAS BEEN LESS THAN GENEROUS IN ASSISTING GVN DIPLOMATS, WE DOUBT DRV LETTER WILL HAVE MUCH IMPACT. FORMER SECRETARY-GENERAL OF GVN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAS ASKED US IF ANY GVN DIPLOMATS HAVE GONE OVER TO DRV. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT DEPT VERIFY WHETHER SIMILAR LETTERS SENT TO GVN DIPLOMATS BY DRV EMBASSIES IN OTHER CAPITALS WHERE GVN EMBASSIES FORMERLY LOCATED AND WHETHER ANY GVN DIPLOMATS KNOWN TO HAVE GONE OVER TO DRV. END SUMMARY.

2. DO THEIU LIET, COUNSELLOR OF FORMER GVN EMBASSY CANBERRA, HAS PROVIDED US WITH COPY OF LETTER SENT TO HIM BY NORTH VIETNAMESE EMBASSY IN CANBERRA MAY 26. SIMILAR LETTERS SENT BY DRV EMBASSY TO LIET FOR DELIVERY TO OTHER GVN DIPLOMATS. TEXT OF LETTER (ON STATIONERY OF DRV EMBASSY) AS FOLLOWS (EMBASSY TRANSLATION):

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3. QTE ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE PROVISIONAL REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH VIET-NAM, THE EMBASSY OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM IN AUSTRALIA DECLARES AS FOLLOWS:

4. QTE THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE PROVISIONAL REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH VIET-NAM DECLARES: ALL OFFICIALS (CAN BO), DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL (NHAN VIEN NGOAI GIAO) WORKING IN THE AGENCIES OF THE FORMER SAIGON REGIME IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES SHALL RETURN HOME TO REPORT TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH VIET-NAM WITHIN A PERIOD OF 30 DAYS AND WILL BE DEALT WITH IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICY ALREADY MADE PUBLIC. THOSE WHO, FOR THEIR OWN REASONS, REMAIN LIVING IN ANY OTHER PLACES MUST REPORT AND ASK FOR PERMISSION. ANY PERSONS NOT RESPECTING THE ABOVE CONDITIONS WILL BE REGARDED AS ACTING VOLUNTARILY TO ABANDON THEIR OFFICIAL FUNCTIONS. END QTE

5. LIET INTERPRETED LETTER AS PRESSURE TO RETURN TO SAIGON. LIET TOLD US HE WILL REVIEW MATTER WITH FORMER AMBASSADOR DOAN BA CANG (NOW LIVING IN SYDNEY) ON MAY 30. EMBOFF SUGGESTED LIET ALSO PROVIDE COPY OF DRV LETTER TO AUSTRALIAN DEPT. OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

6. COMMENT: FORMER GVN EMBASSY STAFF IN AUSTRALIA HAVE BEEN SEEKING, EACH IN HIS OWN WAY, TO RE-DIRECT THEIR LIVES SINCE THE FALL OF SAIGON. AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN ANYTHING BUT SYMPATHETIC AND HAS BEEN CLEARLY UNWILLING TO ASSIST THEM IN ANY NOTABLE WAY, THOUGH MINISTER FOR EDUCATION KIM BEAZLEY (LONG A SUPPORTER OF GVN) HAS BEEN MOST HELPFUL, AS HAVE INDIVIDUAL AUSTRALIANS.

7. AUSTRALIA WILL PROBABLY BE PLACE OF ASYLUM FOR NUMBER OF SENIOR VIETNAMESE DIPLOMATS, IN ADDITION TO FORMER GVN EMBASSY. FORMER GVN AMBASSADOR TO AUSTRALIA, FOREIGN MINISTER AND PRESIDENT OF SENATE, TRAN VAN LAM, IS EXPECTED IN AUSTRALIA FIRST WEEK IN JUNE, TO REJOIN WIFE AND TWO CHILDREN ALREADY HERE. OPPOSITION LEADER FRASER IS SEEKING TO ARRANGE ENTRY INTO AUSTRALIA OF TRAN KIM PHUONG (GVN AMBASSADOR HERE, 1969-71). LUU TUONG QUANG, DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL OF GVN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS WHEN SAIGON FELL, ARRIVED IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AUSTRALIA TWO WEEKS AGO TO REJOIN WIFE AND FAMILY ALREADY HERE. ALL OF THESE FIGURES, AS WELL AS BULK OF FORMER GVN EMBASSY, LIKELY TO REJECT ANY APPROACHES BY DRV EMBASSY.

8. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF MAY 28 LUU TUONG QUANG ASKED IF ANY GVN DIPLOMATS HAD GONE OVER TO COMMUNISTS. EMBOFF SAID HE HAD NOT HEARD OF ANY BUT WOULD INQUIRE. WE ASSUME THAT DRV EMBASSY APPROACH IS PROBABLY BEING MADE IN NUMBER OF

OTHER COUNTRIES. MIGHT BE INTERESTING TO VERIFY POINT THAT
APPROACHES BEING MADE AND TO LEARN REACTION OF FORMER GVN
DIPLOMATS IN CAPITALS WHERE GVN FORMERLY MAINTAINED EMBASSIES.
GREEN

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